as to make it uniform with the measures obtaining in other parts of the State.

Reply.—Orders have been finally passed by Government on this subject after hearing Mr. E. Rama Iyer on behalf of the ryots and there is no reason to reconsider the question now.

373. Irregularities of settlement operations and the heavy assessment fixed on lands in Shencottah.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer represented that settlemen operations in the Shencottah taluk were not conducted in conformity with the provisions of the Royal Proclamation of 1886 and that heavy assessment was fixed on both wet and garden lands. He requested that, as sufficient time was not given to the ryots to submit their grievances, individual cases of hardship might be even now taken up and relief given.

Reply.—The settlement of this taluk was finished in 1081, the aggregate increase in revenue being only Rs. 7,000. Nothing can be done, therefore, in the direction prayed for.

374. Fixing of dry assessment on wet lands which are fit only for dry cultivation.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer stated that most of the wet lands of the taluk were fit only for dry cultivation and yet, in the recent settlement, they were assessed as wet lands. He urged that only dry assessment should be levied on such lands and that lands from which only a single crop could be realised should not be treated as double crop lands.

Reply.—Some cases of this kind which came up before me recently have been received and disposed of. Any further cases calling for interference will be considered, when received.

375. Abolition of house-tax.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer submitted that the houses on which *manavari* or house-tax was levied were very few in Shencottah and the amount realised was small. He requested that the tax might therefore be abolished.

Reply.—No interference is called for. Tax is being collected on the lands on which houses are built and it cannot be dispensed with

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